

Remarks

Claims 1-4 are pending in the application. Claim 1 has been deleted. Claims 2-4 have been amended. New claims 5-16 have been added to the application. The specification and the abstract have been amended. Applicant hereby requests further examination and reconsideration of the application for the reasons set forth herein.

1. The Examiner has stated that the specification is replete with terms which are not clear, concise, and exact as required by 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. The Examiner further stated that the specification should be revised carefully in order to comply with 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, and reviewed to insure that any and all grammatical, diomatic, and spelling or other minor errors are corrected.

The specification has been amended to comply with 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. A substitute specification, excluding the claims, has been submitted in clean form without markings as to the amended material. The substitute specification includes no new matter. A marked-up version of the substitute specification showing all of the changes to the specification has also been submitted. The Examiner's approval of the substitute specification is respectfully requested.

2. The Examiner has rejected claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, in claim 1, lines 4, 7-8, 9, 10, and 11-14 are unclear.

Claim 1 has been deleted from the application. The rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, therefore is moot. Claims 2-4 have been amended to depend from new independent claim 5 which is considered to be in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth herein. Removal of the rejection of claims 2-4 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, is respectfully requested.

3. The Examiner has rejected claims 1-2 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Choy (US Patent No. 5,921,812). The Examiner stated that Choy teaches each and every element set forth in the claims insofar as the claims can be understood. The Examiner further stated that Choy shows an insulating housing 12, a circuit board 100, contacts 19, and two flat-plate metal attachment members 26 having mounting portions and attachment portions. The attachment portions being connected with the mounting portions. The Examiner, therefore, concluded that Choy teaches all of the elements of claims 1 and 2.

Claim 1 has been deleted from the application. The rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) is, therefore, moot. Claim 2 has been amended to depend from new independent claim 5. Because claim 5 is considered to be in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth herein, claim 2 is also considered to be in condition for allowance. Removal of the rejection of claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) is respectfully requested.

4. The Examiner has rejected claims 3-4 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Choy (US Patent No. 5,921,812) in view of Spangler (US Patent No. 5,632,649). The Examiner stated that Choy teaches all of the elements of the claims except the mounting portion each having a base portion and a pair of arms extending from the base portion. The Examiner further

stated that Spangler shows metal attachment members 16 each having attachment portions 76 and a mounting portion 52 including a base portion 55, 54 having a pair of arms 70. The Examiner, therefore, concluded that it would have been obvious to one with skill in the art to modify the connector of choice by replacing the metal attachment members with a type of metal attachment member that has the features taught by Spangler in order to provide the attachment members with better security on the printed circuit board.

Claims 3-4 have been amended to depend from independent claim 5. Because claim 5 is considered to be in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth herein, claims 3-4 are also considered to be in condition for allowance. Removal of the rejection of claims 3-4 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) is respectfully requested.

5. New claims 5-16 have been added to the application.

Independent claim 5 is considered to be in condition for allowance because the prior art fails to teach or suggest a moveable connector comprising an insulating housing having a plurality of contacts and a plate form attachment member having a mounting portion attached to the insulating housing and an attachment portion that engages a circuit board. The attachment portion having a first leg and a second leg positionally off set relative to each other in a direction of thickness of the plate so that the attachment portion can be inserted into the circuit board without excessive force. Claims 6-9 depend from independent claim 5. Because claim 5 is considered to be in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth herein, claims 6-9 are also considered to be in condition for allowance.

Independent claim 10 is considered to be in condition for allowance because the prior art fails to teach or suggest a moveable connector comprising an insulating housing having a

plurality of contacts and a plate form attachment member having a mounting portion attached to the insulating housing. The mounting portion having arms that extend toward a circuit board and an attachment portion that extends from between the arms to engage the circuit board. The attachment portion having legs spaced from the arms. The legs being positionally shifted relative to each other so that the legs do not come into contact with each other when the attachment portion absorbs positional deviation. Claims 11-16 depend from independent claim 10. Because independent claim 10 is considered to be in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth herein, claims 11-16 are also considered to be in condition for allowance.

Examination of new claims 5-16 is respectfully requested.

6. The abstract has been amended to reflect the amendments made to the claims. The Examiner's approval of the amended abstract is respectfully requested.

In view of the amendments and remarks presented herein, the application is considered to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and passage to issue is respectfully requested.

Please charge any additional fees associated with this application to Deposit Order Account No. 501581.

Respectfully submitted,

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Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

In the Abstract:

Replace the Abstract on page 15, lines 1-11 with the following:

[A moveable connector is provided which is more compact, reduces the attachment area on the board, increases the strength of attachment to the board, and increases the reliability of electrical connections. The moveable connector has an insulating housing, contacts held in the vicinity of the mating portion of this housing, and retention legs (metal attachment members) held in the housing and fastened to the board. Each retention leg has a mounting portion mounted on the housing, and an attachment portion attached to the board and connected to the housing portion in a position that is removed from the surface of the circuit board in the upward direction. Since the contacts and retention legs are flexible with respect to the housing, a moveable connector is obtained that can move over the surface of the board so that any positional deviation with the mating connector can be absorbed.]

A moveable connector having an insulating housing and a plate form attachment member. The insulating housing having a plurality of contacts. The plate form attachment member having a mounting portion attached to the insulating housing. The mounting portion having arms that extend toward a circuit board and an attachment portion that extends from between the arms to engage the circuit board. The attachment portion having legs spaced from the arms and positionally shifted relative to each other so that the legs do not come into contact with each other when the attachment portion absorbs positional deviation.

In the Claims:

Delete claim 1.

2. (Amended) The moveable connector [claimed in] of claim [1] 5, wherein the [metal] attachment member[s] is [are] integrally formed by stamping a metal plate[s].
3. (Amended) The moveable connector [claimed in] of claim [1] 5, wherein the mounting portion[s] of the metal attachment members each consist of] includes a base portion [which is fastened to the housing and a pair of] having arms that extend from the base portion toward the circuit board.
4. (Amended) The moveable connector [claimed in] of claim [1] 3, wherein the attachment portion[s] extends further than the arms from the base portion at a point between the arms.

Add claims 5-16.